

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are presently pending and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §193(a) as unpatentable (obvious) over Rodi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,951,567) in view of Huang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,483,846). The arguments advanced by the Examiner in support of this rejection are set out in item #1 on pages 2 and 3 of the Official Action, and are not repeated here.

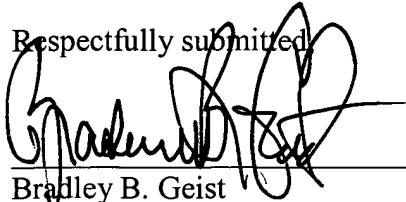
Applicant respectfully traverses the aforesaid grounds for rejection in view of the fact that the sole primary reference (Rodi et al.) does not disclose, teach or suggest the claimed element of both the method (claim 1) and machine (claim 5), namely that an actual value (reading) of a faulty drive is transmitted as a nominal value (target reading) to the drives that are operating faultlessly. The Applicant has studied the passages in the Rodi et al. patent cited by the Examiner, i.e. column 4, lines 5-15, and is of the view that it provides no insight into the above-discussed claim feature. What Rodi et al. appears to teach is a method whereby a monitoring circuit, upon detecting a fault (a condition which exceeds a permissible deviation), sends a signal to the main drive electronic circuit to effect the stoppage of the main drive. This is not at all the same thing as transmitting the actual reading (value) of a faulty drive to the other flawlessly operating drives.

Applicant does not believe it is necessary to discuss the secondary reference of Huang et al. since it has not been cited for a teaching of the above-discussed claim limitation. Further, while Applicant does not concede for the present purposes that Huang et al. is a proper prior art reference, it is not believed necessary at this juncture to advance evidence to establish the priority of the present invention over the teach of Huang et al.

PATENT

For the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the allowance of the pending claims 1-6.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bradley B. Geist', is written over a horizontal line.

Bradley B. Geist
PTO Reg. No. 27,551
Attorney for Applicant
(212) 408-212-408-2562